

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-31 have been canceled without prejudice. New claims 32-61 have been added.  
Consideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.


If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned at (281) 970-4545.

**General Authorization for Extensions of Time**

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, Applicants hereby provide a general authorization to treat this and any future reply requiring an extension of time as incorporating a request therefor. Furthermore, Applicants enclose a Form PTO-2038 for the fee for the two month extension of time currently due. However, if the form is missing, or if the current fees differ from the amount listed on the form, Applicants authorize the Commissioner to charge the appropriate fee for any extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-3092; Order No. MCRO:106--3/FLE (95-0412.03).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 6, 2004

  
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Michael G. Fletcher  
Reg. No. 32,777  
FLETCHER YODER  
P.O. Box 692289  
Houston, Texas 77269-2289  
(281) 970-4545